GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:79
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2002
EXPORT GROWTH
PRABHA RAU;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in our exports during the last few months;

(b) if so, whether the export target fixed for the current financial year is likely to be achieved;

(c) the impact of increased export on our balance of payment position as on date;

(d) the export items which have shown encouraging trends with various countries;

(e) the countries where our export targets are likely to cross the original planned target;

(f) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to meet the export targets or surpass the targets during the current year;

(g) whether the Government are considering reducing the exports target fixed for the current year due to unprecedented drought; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE)

(a) to (h): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (h) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 79 TO BE ANSWER ON 22.11.2002 REGARDING EXPORT GROWTH

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. As per the provisional data provided by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S), Kolkata, India`s exports of merchandise goods in the first half of financial year 2002-2003 (April-September) in dollar terms have registered a growth of 13.49 percent over the corresponding period of last year. This is higher than the target fixed at 12 percent for 2002-2003.

(c) The trade deficit at $(-)4303 million during the period April-September 2002-2003 shows a decline of 12.92 percent over the trade deficit of $(-)4942 million for the corresponding period last year. As imports have also increased by 8.5% in April-September 2002-03, this improvement is due to growth in exports.

(d) The major items of exports which have shown higher growth rate (over 10%) during April-July, 2002-2003 as per DGCI&S data include: Gems & Jewellery, Chemicals and related products and Engineering goods.

(e) Destination-wise export targets are not fixed. However, all major destinations of India`s exports have witnessed growth in exports during April-July 2002-2003.

(f) A Medium Term Export Strategy 2002-07 has been announced by the Deptt. of Commerce and Action Plans have been prepared by the various Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards to achieve the target.In the Exim Policy 2002-07, a number of measures have been announced to promote exports which include additional features for Special Economic Zones, a scheme to reimburse certain admissible expenses for export of certain agricultural products, scheme to help electronic hardware exports, etc.

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.